

PATENT
Serial No. 10/535,056
Amendment in Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed January 17, 2007 which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

By means of the present amendment, the current Abstract has been deleted and substituted with the enclosed New Abstract which better conforms to U.S. practice. Further, the specification has been amended for better conformance to U.S. practice.

By means of the present amendment, claims 1-7 and 9-12 have been amended for better conformance to U.S. practice, such as beginning the dependent claims with 'The' instead of 'A'. Claims 1-7 and 9-12 were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 7-9 and 11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 7-9 and 11 contain allowable subject matter. By means of the present

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amendment, claim 8 has been canceled without prejudice, and independent claim 1 has been amended to include the features of allowable claim 8. Further, allowable claims 7, 9 and 11 have been written in independent form.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 7, 9 and 11 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, as claims 2-6, 10 and 12 depend from independent claims 1 and 11, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 2-6, 10 and 12 also be allowed.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due beyond the fee for one additional independent claim to be charged to the credit card as noted by the enclosed

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authorization. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required for entrance of the accompanying amendment, they may be charged to applicants' representatives Deposit Account No. 50-3649. In addition, please credit any overpayments related to any fees paid in connection with the accompanying amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-3649.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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April 16, 2007

Enclosure: New Abstract
Authorization to charge credit card \$200 for one independent claim in excess of three (i.e., five total independent claims)

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